

**Abstract 555**

**TITLE:** Roundtable: What If They Don't Ever Have Contact with AIDS Educators? The Role of Structural and Environmental Interventions

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**ISSUE:** HIV educators at the community and governmental level need to be thinking of other community resources they can mobilize, and not attempt to be meeting all needs in their community themselves. What social structures and environments can we create so that if individuals never have contact with an AIDS educator, they will still receive support to reduce their risk?

**SETTING:** These presentations will focus on Connecticut's legalization of pharmacy distribution of syringes, San Francisco's and Boston's efforts to develop partnerships with bathhouse owner and neighborhood mobilizing.

**PROJECT:** These presentations are being described in detail elsewhere in this conference; this round-table will focus on the issue of *our roles* (as government, needleexchange operators or community-based organizations). CBOs should be looking at, in the end, how to put themselves out of business, and how NOT to encourage dependency on themselves.

**RESULTS:** In each of these efforts, prevention has been partially returned to the community. Bathhouse owners, bars, and pharmacies have each assumed a role in prevention efforts.

**LESSONS LEARNED:** Numerous internal and external obstacles to building community support were identified, and in some cases, overcome. Our experiences suggest that this requires a re-examination of our roles and a conscientious effort to avoid dependency on us.

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